

Remarks

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action dated April 2, 2008. Although Applicant believes all claims are allowable without amendment, to advance prosecution, Applicant has amended Claims 27-40. None of these amendments is considered narrowing or necessary for patentability. Additionally, none of these amendments is made in relation to any reference cited by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

I. The Claims Recite Patentable Subject Matter

The Examiner rejects 27-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Although Applicant believes the claims are directed to patentable subject matter without amendment, Applicant has made a clarifying amendment to independent Claim 27 in accordance with a suggestion by the Examiner. Applicant has also made a corresponding amendments to dependent Claims 28-40. None of these amendments is considered narrowing or necessary for patentability, and none is made in relation to any reference cited by the Examiner. Given that these amendments were made in accordance with a suggestion by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments place the Application in better condition for allowance or Appeal and request that the Examiner enter these amendments. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of independent Claim 27 and its dependent claims.

II. The Claims are Allowable over the Proposed *Huang-Zhao* Combination

The Examiner rejects 1-8, 10-20, 22-34, and 36-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,577,726 to Huang, et al. ("*Huang*") in view U.S. Patent 6,035,404 to Zhao ("*Zhao*"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

A. Independent Claims 1, 15, 27, and 41 and Their Dependent Claims are Allowable

The cited portions of the proposed *Huang-Zhao* combination fail to disclose, teach, or suggest at least the following limitations recited in Claim 1, which Applicant discusses as an example:

- accessing user input indicating a desire of the user to logon at the endpoint in a shared mode according to which *the endpoint concurrently supports an extension of the user and one or more other extensions of one or more other users*; and
- if the user input indicates a desire of the user to logon at the endpoint in a shared mode according to which the endpoint concurrently supports an extension of the user and one or more other extensions of one or more other users, *configure the endpoint to concurrently support an extension of the user and one or more other extensions of one or more other users*.

As allegedly disclosing these limitations, the Examiner apparently relies on *Huang*. (See Final Office Action at 3-4) The cited portions of *Huang* appear to merely disclose that multiple users can share a single telephone. However, the cited portions of *Huang* do not appear to disclose, teach, or suggest that the users can share a single telephone concurrently. In particular, the cited portions do not appear to disclose, teach, or suggest that “the endpoint *concurrently* supports an extension of the user and one or more other extensions of one or more other users,” as recited in Claim 1. Additionally, the cited portions of *Huang* do not appear to disclose, teach, or suggest “configur[ing] the endpoint to *concurrently* support an extension of the user and one or more other extensions of one or more other users,” as recited in Claim 1. None of the examples discussed throughout *Huang* appear to contemplate such functionality. (See, e.g., *Huang* at 2:22-3:67) Taking the example of “[s]hared telesets” at the bottom of column 3, for example, it is clear that the agents do not share a single teleset concurrently; rather, the agents share a single teleset such that each agent uses the single teleset during that agent’s eight-hour shift.

The cited portions of *Zhao* do not appear to make up for this deficiency of *Huang*.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of independent Claim 1 and its dependent claims. For at least certain analogous reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of independent Claims 15, 27, and 41 and their dependent claims.

B. Independent Claim 42 is Allowable

The cited portions of the proposed *Huang-Zhao* combination also fail to disclose, teach, or suggest various limitations recited in Claim 42.

For example, for at least certain reasons analogous to those discussed above with reference to Claim 1, the cited portions of the proposed *Huang-Zhao* combination fail to disclose, teach, or suggest the limitations related to the shared mode, as recited in Claim 42.

As another example, the portions of the proposed *Huang-Zhao* combination fail to disclose, teach, or suggest the following limitations recited in Claim 42:

- if the endpoint is concurrently supporting multiple extensions:
 - prompt a user to enter a calling extension of an outgoing phone call from the endpoint; and
 - generate signaling data for communication with the outgoing phone call that identifies the entered calling extension.

As allegedly disclosing these limitations, the Examiner cites column 3, lines 40-48 of *Huang*. The cited portion of *Huang* discloses an example in which a sales team member visits a sales office and selects a vacant office. (*Huang* at 3:31-32) In the example, the sales team member comes into the office to make follow-up calls to contacts associated with his accounts. (*Id.* at 35-37) He then logs on to the company's CTI-enabled server, navigates to the Accounts screen, and clicks on the hyperlink of the account of interest. (*Id.* at 37-40) He then selects from the Account Contact view contacts with whom he wants to follow up. (*Id.* at 40-41) Once the individual is selected, he clicks the right mouse button on the contact and selects the Make Call option from the pop-up menu. (*Id.* at 41-44) The CTI server dials the contact and the sales team member picks up the telephone handset when the phone is ringing. (*Id.* at 44-46) While the sales team member is in the office, he is able to accept inbound calls from his workspace with the CTI toolbar, menu items, and/or shortcuts. (*Id.* at 47-49) However, nowhere does the cited portion disclose, teach, or suggest the above-identified limitations of Claim 42.

First, as allegedly disclosing the limitation "if the endpoint is concurrently supporting multiple extensions," as recited in Claim 42, the Examiner identifies the statement the

disclosure of the sales team member being able to accept inbound calls from his workspace while in the office. (See Office Action at 12 citing *Huang* at 3:46-48) However, this cited portions does not disclose an endpoint concurrently supporting multiple extensions. Rather, it simply discloses telephone at a workspace accepting calls for the single sales team member. Additionally, since *Huang* fails to disclose this “if” condition, *Huang* necessarily fails to disclose the remaining limitations of the claim that are based off this “if” condition.

Second, as allegedly disclosing “prompt[ing] a user to enter a calling extension of an outgoing phone call from the endpoint,” the Examiner identifies the Make Call option in *Huang*. (See Office Action at 12 citing *Huang* at 3:40-43) However, the Make Call option as disclosed in *Huang* merely discloses a user selecting a called party [*i.e.*, the selected contact]. There is no selection of a *calling party* in the cited portion.

Third, as allegedly disclosing “generat[ing] signaling data for communication with the outgoing phone call that identifies the entered calling extension,” the Examiner cites the disclosure in *Huang* of the CTI server dialing the contact. (See Office Action at 12 citing *Huang* at 3:40-43) However, the this cited portion fails to disclose, teach, or suggest “generat[ing] signaling data for communication with the outgoing phone call that identifies the entered *calling extension*,” as recited in Claim 42.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of independent Claim 42.

III. The Separately-Rejected Dependent Claims are Allowable

The Examiner rejects 9, 21, and 35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Huang*, *Zhao*, and U.S. Patent 5,933,477 to Marcus, et al. (“*Marcus*”).

Dependent Claims 9, 21, and 35 depend (either directly or indirectly) from independent Claims 1, 15, 27, respectively, which Applicant has shown above to be allowable over the proposed *Huang-Zhao* combination. The Examiner does not allege that *Marcus* makes up for the above-discussed deficiencies of the proposed *Huang-Zhao*

combination. Thus, dependent Claims 9, 21, and 35 are allowable at least because they depend from allowable independent claims. Additionally, dependent Claims 9, 21, and 35 recite further patentable distinctions over the proposed *Huang-Zhao-Marcus* combination. To avoid burdening the record and in view of the clear allowability of independent Claims 1, 15, 27, Applicant does not specifically discuss these distinctions in this Response. However, Applicant reserves the right to discuss these distinctions in a future Response or on Appeal, if appropriate. Moreover, Applicant does not admit that the proposed *Huang-Zhao-Marcus* combination is possible or that the Examiner has provided an adequate reason for combining or modifying the references.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of dependent Claims 9, 21, and 35.

IV. No Waiver

All of Applicant's arguments and amendments are without prejudice or disclaimer. Additionally, Applicant has merely discussed example distinctions from the references cited by the Examiner. Other distinctions may exist, and Applicant reserves the right to discuss these additional distinctions in a later Response or on Appeal, if appropriate. By not responding to additional statements made by the Examiner, Applicant does not acquiesce to the Examiner's additional statements. The example distinctions discussed by Applicant are sufficient to overcome the Examiner's rejections.

Conclusion

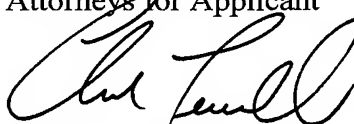
Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this case in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact Chad D. Terrell, Attorney for Applicant, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6813.

Although no fees are believed due at this time, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fees due or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chad D. Terrell', is written over the printed name.

Chad D. Terrell
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Date: June 2, 2008

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